



THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA
CLASSIS BRITISH COLUMBIA NORTH - WEST

AGENDA FOR SESSION 68

Tuesday & Wednesday D.V. March 3rd & 4th, 2015

STARTING AT 1:00 p.m. on TUESDAY (3rd) & 8:30 a.m. (4th) on WEDNESDAY

Hosted by and meeting at the Immanuel CRC 7600 # 4 Rd. Richmond, B.C.

Classis Officers;

President: Rev. Harvey Roosma Vice-President: Rev. Jo Schouten
Recording secretary: Rev. Chelsey Harmon Stated Clerk: Andy de Ruyter

Art 1. Opening and Organization

- 1.1 Praise and Worship.
- 1.2 The president calls the meeting to order, welcomes delegates and guests.
- 1.3 Roll call as per credentials by Stated Clerk.
- 1.4 Deacon delegates to be seated by motion.
- 1.5 Affirmation of Reformed Doctrine and Life
- 1.6 First time delegates to classis, including deacon delegates, to sign Covenant of Office Bearers.
- 1.7 President declares this meeting of classis to be officially constituted.
- 1.8 Time schedule presented for approval;

Tuesday	Wednesday
1:00 pm - Opening session	8:30 am - Morning session
3:15 pm - Refreshments	10:00 am - Refreshments
3:30 pm - Afternoon session	10:15 am - Morning session continued
5:30 pm - Dinner Break	12:00 pm - Lunch Break
7:00 pm - Evening session	1:00 pm – Afternoon session
9:00 pm – Adjournment	(same as Tuesday until business completed)

Art 2. Appointment of Committees for pre-advice to Classis

- 2.1 Overtures / Communications - Terrace CRC & Victoria CRC
- 2.2 Expense Vouchers - New Westminster CRC & Nanaimo CCC
- 2.3 Credentials - Alberni CRC & Vancouver CRC
- 2.4 Transcribed Minutes - Houston CRC & Duncan CRC

Art. 3. Classical Ministries / Interim Committee

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3.1 Stated Clerk.....pg. 3-7 | 3.7 Safe Church Team.....pg. 24-27 |
| 3.2 Classical Ministries Committee.....pg. 7-10 | 3.8 Nominations Committee.....in addendum rep. |
| 3.3 Treasurer Report | 3.8 Church Visiting reports.....5 verbal reports |
| 3.4 Church Counsellors (none) | 3.10 Ministry to Seafarers.....pg. 31 |
| 3.5 CMLT / SFC.....pg. 28 | 3.11 Classis Renewal Team.....verbal report |
| 3.6 Synod Report (Fall Session) | |

Art 4. Classis Ministries & Team's

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4.1 Church Development Team (in CMC report) | 4.5 "downtown friends".....pg. 29 |
| 4.2 Leadership Development Net.....pg. 18/19 | 4.6 Chr. Ref. Campus Min in BC |
| 4.3 Sierra Leone Ad Hoc Comm. | 4.7 Kwantlen Multi-Faith Center |
| 4.4 | 4.8 Breakthrough Ministries.....pg. 30 |

Art 5. Advisory Committee Reports

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 5.1 Overtures Committee | 5.3 Credentials Committee |
| 5.2 Expense Vouchers Committee | 5.4 Transcribed Minutes Comm. |

Art 6. Denominational Ministries

- 6.1 CRC Ministries – *1/4ly reports sent to churches*
- 6.2 World Renew - (sent as a pdf attachment)
- 6.3 BOT-CRCNA – Rev. T. VanderVeen
- 6.4 Home Missions – Rev. Harvey Roosma
- 6.5 Home Missions – Regional Team
- 6.6 World Missions – Jenny de Groot.....pg. 34
- 6.7 Back to God Hour International – J.Vegt
- 6.8 Calvin College – Ms. M. Verboon
- 6.9 Calvin Seminary – Rev. A. VanderLeek
- 6.10 Diaconal Ministries, Canada...pg. 32
- 6.11 CRCNA Historical Comm. (sent previously)

Art 7. Non – Denominational Ministries

- 7.1 Bethesda Christian Association
- 7.2 Cascade Christian Counselling.....pg. 33
- 7.5 Canadian Aboriginal Min. Com.....pg. 36/37
- 7.3 The Kings University College..pg. 35/36
- 7.4 M2 / W2 (sent as a pdf attachment)
- 7.5 Service-Link (sent as a pdf attachment)

Art 8. Other Reports / Correspondence

- 8.1 List of Classical Functionaries and Denominational Representatives / Acronym List - pg. 38-41
- 8.2 letter from Rev. Darren Roorda, Canadian Ministries Director - pg. 23/24
- 8.2 Corporation of Classis BCNW – CRCNA AGM agenda and minutes – pg. 16/17
- 8.3 Commissioned Pastor Job Descriptions – pg.11-13
- 8.4 Collaboration Opportunity for Ministry to International Students and Scholars – pg. 20-22
- 8.5 Committee to provide pastoral guidance re-same sex marriage / Listening Session – 14/15

Art 9. Closing Exercises

- 9.1 President to inquire if all appointments have been filled
- Reminder: Classis approved not to read concept minutes at the conclusion of our meetings any more.*
- 9.2 Stated Clerk - next meeting of classis – October 6th & 7th, 2015 – The Tapestry, Richmond
 - next officers of classis - President: Rev. Jo Schouten
 - Vice Pres: Rev. Martin Vellekoop
 - announcements and reminders
- 9.3 Presidents closing remarks and any last minute announcements
- 9.4 Vice-President to thank President for conducting this session of classis and lead in closing devotions
- 9.5 President to declare Classis adjourned.

For lodging and airport pick-up, please provide the following information to Ms. Nicole Yang of the Immanuel CRC, no later than February 22th, 2015 email: cnicoletan@gmail.com

- 1. Name and city of home church _____
- 2. Name of Delegate _____ M ___ F (gender needed for lodging assignments)
- 3. Billet / Lodging _____ Yes _____ No
- 4. Transportation _____ from airport _____ to the airport
 Transportation _____ to and from the hotel / billet (Tues. evening and Wed. morning)
- 5. Airline & Flight # _____ Scheduled arrival time on March 3rd _____
 Airline & Flight # _____ Scheduled departure time on March 4th _____

All expense claims need to be accompanied with receipts for travel, meals, mileage etc.

Stated Clerk Report

March 3rd & 4th, 2015

1] Welcome to Session 68 of Classis British Columbia North - West.

A big thank you to the council and members of the Immanuel CRC for their hospitality in hosting this meeting of classis.

2] The agenda for this meeting will keep us busy with 2 commissioned pastor job description approvals, a list of ministry presenters, reports on LDN renewal, CDT thoughts on to proceed, report on the overture concerning making a joint executive for SCT with BCSE, the corporation meeting, classis renewal team report, some guest speakers and as well all the regular classis committees reporting.

NOTE: Classis BC South East & Classis BC North West will be meeting in joint session on the Tuesday session from 4:00 – 9:00 pm at the Ladner CRC for a time of worship and prayer. (delegates will be bussed to and from) After dinner Rev. Darren Roorda, Canadian Ministries Director, will be speaking to/with delegates, followed by *The Synodical Committee to Provide Pastoral Guidance regarding Same-Sex Marriage* who will be hosting a consultation session in preparation for their report to Synod 2015

3] As stated clerk I have engaged in numerous emails, telephone calls, conference calls, correspondence, reports, meetings, dealing with requests and information from pastors and councils, continual updating functionaries lists, web site updates and organization, organizing marriage registrations for new pastors in our classis as well as some temporary registration numbers for visiting pastors, set the examinations in place and assigned the various teams needed for these examinations, organized CMC agenda material and lead meeting, recorded executive minutes, set agendas, recorded and distributed classis minutes and regular administrative duties on behalf of classis. Other work done included spending time on forwarding announcement emails, denominational and government communications, etc. to churches, committees, and others as required.

4] On January 20th and 21st 2015, I attended the first ever Canadian Stated Clerks Conference at the CRC offices in Burlington Ontario, along with David Salverda representing the CMC. Each Canadian classes was invited to send the stated clerk and one other classes leader to this conference for a time of sharing, fellowship and study, looking at items such as the current state of “classis” in Canada, working better together, desired future for classis, denominational resources, being served by ministries, Canadian CRCNA National Gathering of 2016

and methods on connecting with churches etc.

Conference leaders and presenters included Darren Roorda, Lis Van Harten, Karl Westerhof, David Koll and Mark VanderVennen.

There was a \$400.00 cost per classis that was approved by the CMC. The rest of the conference costs (travel, lodging, meals etc.) were covered by the Canadian office of the CRCNA.

5] Sent as separate attachments along with the agenda.

- Annual report from Service Link
- World Renew Spring Report
- M2W2 Report

6] Classis Credential Form. *Note new contact information section

Please complete and return before the meeting of classis, either scanning and sending by email or using post-mail. If you send back the credentials by email, electronic signatures are fine. You do not have to send a second copy with signatures. Please note to include delegates email addresses.

It would be helpful if delegates could be elected/appointed at least 1 month before the meeting of classis so I can better prepare them for the large amount of material that is needed to be studied and read before classis meets. In this way we make good use of our limited time together and all delegates can come properly prepared. Please send the names of delegates with email address as soon as possible.

7] Please do what you can to **keep travel costs down**, booking flights early using possible seat sales when coming from the north and ride / ferry sharing when coming from the Island. Also please inform the office of Immanuel CRC **by February 24th** on transportation and lodging requirements. (please see the form at the bottom of pg. 2)

8] Delegates are reminded to review the “*classical rules of procedures*” before attending classis, (*available on our website, www.classisbcnw.ca under documents*) and are reminded that as delegates, you are expected to attend all sessions of classis.

9] The Fall 2015 meeting of classis will be held on October 6th & 7th, 2015 at The Tapestry in Richmond, B.C.

10] Approved Classical and Denominational ministry shares for 2015

Classical and Denominational Ministry Shares for 2015

Classis BCNW Ministry Share
per member \$ **64.30** (2014-\$62.80)
(3200 members – yearbook 2013)

Denominational Ministry Share
per member \$ **371.11**

Ministry to Seafarers	\$ 9.45	BTGMI	\$ 43.97
Leadership Development Network	\$ 2.00	Calvin College	\$ 2.86
Student Fund	\$ 10.00	Area colleges (Kings)	\$ 63.63
Chr. Ref. Campus Ministry in B.C.	\$ 15.00	Calvin Seminary	\$ 35.91
Classis Expense Fund	\$ 13.85	Faith Formation *	\$ 81.23
The Tapestry-Kwantlen Chaplain	\$ 5.00	Home Missions	\$ 46.88
Safe Church Team	\$ 4.00	World Missions	\$ 60.56
<i>downtown friends</i> ministries	\$ 5.00	Syn. Admin. Services *	\$ 32.38
		Special Assistance Fund	\$ 3.69

Please remember that 50% of your classical ministry shares are due to the classical treasurer by July 1, 2015.

11] Church Visitors Assignments for 2015/16, beginning March 2015

The following church visiting assignments have been assigned for the next year.

Church being visited:	Church doing the visit:	Date Visited: 2015/2016
<u>Northern Churches:</u>		
Terrace CRC	- Houston CRC	
Smithers CRC	- Terrace CRC	
Telkwa CRC	- Prince George CRC	
Houston CRC	- Telkwa CRC	
Prince George CRC	- Smithers CRC	
<u>Island Churches:</u>		
Victoria CRC	- Alberni Valley CRC	
Victoria CCC	- Nanaimo CRC	
Duncan CRC	- Victoria CRC	
Nanaimo CCC	- Duncan CRC	
Alberni Valley CRC	- Victoria CCC	
<u>Lower Mainland Churches</u>		
Maple Ridge CRC	- Vancouver CRC	
Mundy Park CF	- New Westminster CRC	
New Westminster CRC	- Nelson Ave CC	
Nelson Ave CC	- Then Tapestry	
Vancouver CRC	- Nelson Ave. CC	
Richmond Immanuel CRC	- Maple Ridge CRC	
Richmond The Tapestry	- Mundy Park CR	

Reimbursement form for classical church visits

On our web page, www.classisbcnw.ca, under the tab marked “documents” you will find a short form that needs to be filled out for any reimbursements for costs associated with a classical church visit. These forms need to be printed off and sent to the stated clerk, either by scanning and emailing, classisbcnw@shaw.ca or snail mail, 22591 McClinton Ave., Richmond, B.C. V6V 2P8 for approval for payment. Please do not send directly to the classical treasurer.

2013/2014 Visiting Schedule

Church being visited: Church doing the visit: Date Visited: 2014

Northern Churches:

<i>Terrace CRC</i>	<i>- Smithers CRC</i>	<i>April 29th</i>
<i>Smithers CRC</i>	<i>- Houston CRC</i>	<i>May 21st</i>
<i>Telkwa CRC</i>	<i>- Terrace CRC</i>	<i>May 13th</i>
<i>Houston CRC</i>	<i>- Prince George CRC</i>	<i>May 26th</i>
<i>Prince George CRC</i>	<i>- Telkwa CRC</i>	<i>June 9th</i>

Island Churches:

<i>Victoria CRC</i>	<i>- Duncan CRC</i>	
<i>Victoria CCC</i>	<i>- Victoria CRC</i>	<i>March 18th</i>
<i>Duncan CRC</i>	<i>- Alberni Valley CRC</i>	<i>September 8</i>
<i>Nanaimo CCC</i>	<i>- Victoria CCC</i>	<i>July 24th</i>
<i>Alberni Valley CRC</i>	<i>- Nanaimo CCC</i>	<i>August 21st</i>

Lower Mainland Churches

<i>Maple Ridge CRC</i>	<i>- Immanuel CRC</i>	<i>October 14</i>
<i>Mundy Park CF</i>	<i>- downtown friends</i>	
<i>New Westminster CRC</i>	<i>- Vancouver CRC</i>	
<i>Nelson Ave CC</i>	<i>- New Westminster CRC</i>	<i>November 18</i>
<i>Vancouver CRC</i>	<i>- Nelson Ave. CC</i>	<i>January 14</i>
<i>Vancouver downtown friends</i>	<i>- Mundy Park CF</i>	
<i>Richmond Immanuel CRC</i>	<i>- The Tapestry</i>	<i>September 7</i>
<i>Richmond The Tapestry</i>	<i>- Maple Ridge CRC</i>	

12] Correspondence received and sent.

note; if any delegate would like to see the correspondence (mostly emails) that was received or sent, please let me know and I can provide an electronic copy of the correspondence requested.

Motion to approve the work of the stated clerk.

*Humbly submitted
Andy de Ruyter
Stated Clerk, Classis BCNW*

CLASSICAL MINISTRIES COMMITTEE
REPORT TO CLASSIS BCNW
March 3rd & 4th, 2015

The classical Ministries committee does most of its work by email conversations, phone calls and conference call meetings. A conference call meeting was held on January 29th where several key issues were discussed and items planned for the agenda of this classis meeting.

1] CMC Actions

Reviewed and approved expenses from Classis meeting in October 2014 - \$5275.19

Appointed Rev Harvey Roosma to serve as chair of classis and Rev. Jo Schouten as Vice-chair.

Rev. Chelsey Harmon will graciously serve as recording secretary again.

Rev. Walt Vanderwerf will lead worship on the opening session and the Wednesday morning session and be part of the prayer / worship team at the joint-session.

Approved final arrangements for the joint session of classis with BCSE.

Bus to transport delegates at 3:30 to Ladner CRC

Joint session to begin at 4:00 pm with opening remarks and then a time of prayer and worship.

Following dinner and time to fellowship, there will be a short time to celebrate and thank Martin Contant at his retirement, then Canadian Director Darren Roorda will address the delegates and following will be the listening session by the denominational committee on providing pastoral guidance for same-sex relationships.

note: copies of the cover letter, agenda and discussion questions can be found on pg's of the agenda package.

Bus to transport delegates back to Immanuel CRC at 9:00 pm.

Costs; Bus rental \$425.00 (48 passenger)

Dinner: \$ 25.00 per person (130 people which we pay ½, \$1625.00)

(approval given for this at last classis meeting by way of motion. art 3.2 under CMC report.)

Stated Clerk and Classis Leaders Conference Jan. 21/22, 2015

David Salverda and s/c Andy de Ruyter attended this conference in Burlington on January 20/21, 2015.

Considerable time was spent discussing relevant issues facing our churches and how the Canadian office can partner with Classis in its work supporting the local churches. A document / notes on the discussions, thoughts and items discussed will be made available. S/C will distribute this to the CMC once it is received and also to the churches and at the classis meeting to the delegates.

(report in the CRC News on Janaury28th)

Received letter from Immanuel CRC on lifting suspension for Rev. Peter Lim. S/C to report to classis that proper procedures (CO) were followed and full reconciliation has been achieved between Pastor Lim and the Immanuel CRC council. Pastor Lim has now been granted full retirement status.

AGM for the Corporation of Classis BCNW (agenda and minutes of AGM in agenda package, pg's)

Will be using shorten form so shouldn't take more than 10 minutes. Needed are motions approving budget, auditor and directors for corporation minutes. (will be done following the classis treasurers report)

Ministry funding tax report

Classis Treasurer David Pel has been doing a review of accountability criteria for the ministries classis financially support. Items such as appointing directors, control over spending, agreement outlining accomplishments on behalf of classis etc.

He will make a full report to classis on what needs to be done by each ministry. Warns CMC that some ministries may not like the changes but classis needs to be in line with government regulations.

Classis Review Team (Martin Vellekoop, Jo Schouten, David Salverda)

- will be making brief report to classis on discussions and what may be coming in future reports and recommendations.

Overtures

Classis acceded to an overture from Maple Ridge CRC on looking at having a joint executive with BCSE for the Safe Church team. Chelsey Harmon, our classis Rep and the S/C will be making a report to classis that we move forward with this proposal and make a full recommendation with motions at the October classis meeting. (Recommendation will be in the addendum report shortly before classis meets)
Faye Martin will be reporting to Classis on this as well and on the current needs assessment process currently underway with our churches.

LDN (two documents in agenda package pg's)

Committee will be presenting to classis an expansion of their mandate with additional staffing / funding requests. S/C's of BCSE and BCNW met with LDN board on February 5th to discuss procedure and implications of what they are proposing.

Collaboration Opportunity for Ministry to International Students and Scholars

(- two documents in agenda package, pg's)

New West CRC will present and request support and partial funding for this new ministry.

Temporary Marriage Registration Number

Request from Rev. Jan Wieringa, a retired minister from the Gereformeerde Kerk in Holland, for a marriage registration # so he can officiate at this granddaughters wedding on May 2, 2015.

Rev. Wieringa was a CRC minister in the 60/70's before he returned to Holland where he still lives.

Request was approved by CMC and S/C issued documents.

Richmond CRC AGM

Members of the CMC will attend the AGM of the Richmond CRC on March 3rd, 2015 in its role of supervision in the sale of the building and lands to The Tapestry.

2] Ministerial Concerns and actions

Commissioned Pastor Job Descriptions

Duncan CRC has submitted a request to approve a commissioned pastor job description.

(Copy of job description is at the end of this report, pg.)

S/C has submitted the job description to synodical deputies for their possible concurrence with a classis decision.

S/C will inform classis of the Syn. Dep. decision after they make their decision.

note: Duncan CRC will call Henry Vanderschaaf to fill the position if approved. An examination will be scheduled for the October classis meeting.

Maple Ridge CRC has also submitted a commissioned pastor job description for classis approval.

(Copy of job description is at the end of this report, pg.)

S/C has submitted the job description to synodical deputies for their possible concurrence with a classis decision.

S/C to inform classis of the Syn. Dep. decision after they make their decision.

If approved, Maple Ridge CRC will call Shane Rozeveld to fill the position. Classis will need to decide if Shane needs to be re-examined as this job description is similar to the one he filled in his years at Alberni Valley CRC. (church order 23 say his (re)ordination requires the approval of classis and that his former church presents good ecclesiastical testimonies of doctrine and life to his new church and classis.)

CMC proposes to classis that Shane not be re-examined and Maple Ridge CRC be given permission to ordain Shane to the new position.

Note:

CMC advises church councils that are considering a commissioned pastor position for their churches to carefully look at church order art 23 and its complexities in the process. There is a lot of confusion and misunderstanding out there on procedure.

Re-ordination request for Daniel Devadatta

CMC received request from Daniel Devadatta for re-ordination. He was honourably released in 2002 by our classis (New West CRC) to take up a new ministry in Pakistan and has returned to the States.

From Classis BCNW Minutes, March 2002

- 12.1 **Motion:** Classis British Columbia North-West declares that **Rev. Daniel Devadatta is honourably released** from the office of Ministry of the Word in the CRCNA in accordance with C.O. art. 14.B.

Daniel now lives in Grand Rapids and is doing pastoral care work with the Hope Network, an outreach ministry sponsored by LaGrave CRC in Grand Rapids. This work requires an ordained minister, hence the request for Daniel to be re-ordained into the minister of our denomination.

Church order says that we (Classis BCNW) need to interview and examine him, and declare him eligible for a call under co 14e, as we were the ones who released him.

Because he now lives in GR and his new ministry will be in GR, S/C is trying to convince everyone (deputies, candidacy committee, CMLT, Classis Grand Rapids South and their deputies) that it would be a good idea for Classis Grand Rapids South to do the interview/examination saving expense and time for both Daniel and our classis. Reasons? This is the classis he is a member of, this is the classis that would approve his new position from the LaGrave CRC and this is the classis / church that would hold his credentials. (initial conversations with synodical deputies, candidacy committee and classis GR South seem to be favourable)

S/C will inform classis of the outcome of the discussions. If it is determined that we still need to do the interview it will be scheduled either for the upcoming March meeting or the October meeting of classis.

Rev. Vinh Le Release

Pastor Vinh has informed classis that he has sustained his examination for ordination into the Presbyterian Church of America and has accepted a call to be a missionary to the Vietnamese people in Everett Washington. Upon receipt of his ministerial credentials from the New Westminster CRC, and concurrence from the synodical deputies, the CMC will move that classis declare Rev. Vinh Lee honourably released from the office of Ministry of the Word in the CRCNA in accordance with C.O. art. 14.B.

3] CDT Report (Classis Development Team)

CMC continues to be “challenged” in developing a plan and proposal for classis on the future of the CDT.

In a recent discussion the following thoughts and concerns were brought forward.

- change mandate from a team that looks at church plants to a classis person / coach that would assist churches with looking at their own unique situations and how to build in their own communities with the resources they have.
- are there persons available who have a heart for this type of ministry that can help classis understand what its role should be in the future
- unless a clear mandate is accepted and understood, can we really continue with this?
- the need for discussion and input from the churches is needed
- how do we oversee current ministries and what are the responsibilities in regards to accountability to classis in funding and ministry oversight?

CMC is proposing to classis that it continue to try and define what the CDT will look like in future and find people to help shape that direction. CMC asks for classis patience in receiving a proposal and that the member churches / pastors forward any recommendations, ideas, available persons who have a heart for this type of ministry that can help shape classis role in church development to the CMC.

Classis contact for the following ministries will for the time being, continue to be done by the CMC.

Breakthrough Ministries

Downtown Friends

Seafarers

UNBC

Kwantlen

4] Requests for reporting at this meeting of classis

(Wednesday Morning Session)

DMC – Rachel Vouge and/or Mellissa Van Dyk

LDN - Joanne Devries or Andrew Aukema

M2W2 - Rev. Raymond Robyn (?)

Seafarers Chaplain - Chaplain Ernst DeVries & Se-Youn Moon (summer intern for Seafarers Ministries)

SCT – Faye Martin

Classis ministries: downtown friends, breakthrough ministries, UNBC, Kwantlen

Denominational boards: BOT, Home Missions etc.

A reminder has been sent to all presenters that their presentations be brief and pointed as possible, trying to minimize the report on classis (written and oral) and to maximize their reporting directly to the local churches instead. CMC continues to work on ways to make ministry reporting more stream lined and relevant to the churches.

This may, in future, involve requesting summary reports only in the main agenda with links to the full reports elsewhere. Also the idea of a Ministry Fair (as classis BCSE does) during classis breaks so the delegates can approach those ministries they want to for information and materials.

5] Nomination Committee Report

2 alternate elder delegates for Synod 2015

World Renew Rep for our classis (George Horlings retiring)

Synodical Deputy - Second term for Rev. David Cheung

6] Submitted Written Reports

The following is a list of written reports submitted that are included in the agenda packet. These reports will not be accompanied by a verbal report, but still should be read and dealt with by each church council.

- Christian Reformed World Missions
- Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee
- Cascade Christian Counselling
- Kings College
- Service Link (sent as an attachment)
- World Renew (sent as an attachment)

7] Stated Clerk / CMC Addendum Report

- will be made available to delegates shortly before classis meets and include;
- report from combined meeting with LDN Board, and reps from classes BCNW & BCSE

8] Motion to approve the work of the CMC

Mr. Andy de Ruyter	- Lead / Stated Clerk	Rev. Jo Schouten	- Secretary / alt. Stated Clerk
Mr. David Pel	- Classis Treasurer	Mr. Victor Chen	- CMLT/SFC rep
Rev. Henry Numan		Rev. David Salverda	



DUNCAN CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
930 TRUNK ROAD, DUNCAN, BRITISH COLUMBIA, V9L 2S1

October 26, 2014

Job Description

Leader of Congregational Life

Position Summary

The Leader of Congregational Life serves the Church by encouraging and enabling member participation in the life of the congregation, and by providing pastoral care, preaching, and leadership in youth/young adult ministry. Participation in Council, Elders, and administrative meetings is expected.

Responsibilities

1. Directly encourage members to become active participants within our congregation in areas such as worship services, joining small groups and Bible studies, and attending social events.
2. Equip and model for the congregation ways to reach those outside the faith.
3. Welcome newcomers and help to enfold them in the congregation by inviting them to participate in the life of the Church.
4. Prepare sermons for an average of 9 worship services per year.
5. Lead congregational prayer on a monthly basis.
6. Pastoral care:
 - (a) Make visits to encourage and support those who are going through difficult times.
 - (b) Facilitate connecting the older and the younger generations.
 - (c) Connect with youth.
 - (d) Conduct weddings, including pre-marital counselling.
 - (e) Administer Sacraments: Baptism & Lord's Supper
7. Serve as a Council representative on the Outreach Committee.
8. Attend meetings of General Council, elders, and administration.
9. Take a lead in the ministering to the congregation's youth (ages 12-18) and single young adults (ages 19 – 30) through activities such as:
 - Cooperating with others in the community to set up regular "Youth/young adult" worship events
 - Organizing "Close Encounters" weekends
 - Work with leaders of "Total Impact" to organize activities.
10. Attend conferences or seminars when appropriate.
11. Other duties as assigned.

Accountability

This position is supervised by the Senior Pastor on a regular basis and is accountable to the Church Council with respect to responsibilities, terms and conditions, and evaluation.

Monthly written reports of activities shall be provided to the Senior Pastor and to the elders.

An annual review of performance is undertaken by Council (or a designated committee) and the Senior Pastor.

Terms and Conditions

Time commitment

- 20-hours per week average
- Flexibility in the number of hours per week is afforded, in consultation with senior pastor
- The minimum number of hours served per month, excepting vacations, is 20 hours per month (rationale: this position requires a minimum number of monthly hours for consistent availability)
- The leader's activities should include the following, in proportion according to the needs of the congregation at the time:
 - Preaching and congregational prayer
 - Pastoral care
 - Youth & young adults ministry
 - Evangelism, welcoming newcomers and encouraging member participation
 - Meetings, seminars, administration

Compensation and benefits

- Pay is salary based with flexibility for reduced hours with sufficient advance notice
- Two weeks vacation annually, based on hours worked
- Automobile expenses
- CPP Employer portion
- EI employer portion
- Books, conferences, training as approved by Council

Qualifications

- A commitment to serve God and His Church
- A member of the Duncan CRC in good standing
- Spends time in Bible study and prayer
- Keen understanding of what it means to be a Reformed Christian
- Sustain a Classical exam for a commissioned pastor within the 2014-15 year.

Youth Pastor Job Description
Maple Ridge CRC
March 2014

I. Youth Ministry Purpose

To develop a Youth Ministry in which students are introduced to Jesus and disciplined toward spiritual maturity. To provide an environment in which prayer, worship, and the study of Scripture are central and exercised in a way that is relevant to the youth of today, taking into consideration their current spiritual state, specific youth culture, family background, and developmental stage. These spiritual disciplines are seen as essential for lasting spiritual growth.

To build a strong community of youth that provides safety, fun, unconditional acceptance and care. This fellowship is designed to bring holistic care to young people in an environment that facilitates commitment, not only to one another, but to God through Jesus Christ.

II. Responsibilities

General Responsibilities

1. Oversee the spiritual development of the youth of Maple Ridge CRC.

2. Recruit, train, and oversee a group of youth and adult leaders.
3. Create opportunities for youth to minister and serve.
4. Project and submit for approval a Youth Ministry plan and budget to the Operations Board for inclusion in their annual budget, managing the budget throughout the year.
5. Mobilize other leaders/resources to equip families

Specific Responsibilities

- 1. Overseeing the spiritual development of the youth of Maple Ridge CRC specifically involves:**
 - a. Planning and leading regular youth meetings (once per week) with volunteer teams in age-appropriate groupings.
 - b. Spending one-on-one and group time with youth to build relationships and stay connected with current youth culture, as time permits and as needed
 - c. Creating and implementing a vision and strategy for MRCRC youth ministry with volunteer leadership team
 - d. Work alongside other ministry leaders in reaching out to the youth of the community, providing opportunities for non-churched youth to connect with the MRCRC youth program.
 - e. Meeting once a year with the parents of youth and being a support and resource to them. Communicating information effectively to youth, parents, and the MRCRC congregation.

- 2. Recruiting, training, and overseeing a group of youth and adult leaders specifically involves:**

- a. Holding regular youth leadership meetings.
- b. Developing the leadership abilities of both student and adult volunteers.
- c. Being a resource and support to volunteers, helping them fulfill their tasks.

Policy.

- 3. Creating opportunities for youth to serve specifically involves:**

- a. With other ministry leaders, facilitating opportunities for youth to minister within Maple Ridge CRC according to their gifts and talents.
- b. Providing opportunities for youth to engage in service projects and/or missions trips either locally or abroad.

- 4. Project and submit for approval a youth ministry plan and budget to the Operations Board for inclusion in their annual budget, and manage the budget throughout the year.**

- 5. Mobilize leaders and/or other resources to equip families in ministering to their teenagers.**

III. Relationships

Senior Pastor - The Youth Pastor is directly accountable to the Senior Pastor in all matters relating to the performance of his/her work and will meet regularly.

Church Council - The Youth Pastor will serve as an advisor to the church Council in matters relating to youth; he/she will be an auditing and resource person to Council.

Other Staff Members - The Youth Pastor will cooperate and work as a team with other staff. There will be weekly team meetings with Senior Pastor and other ministry staff.

IV. Evaluation

The performance of the Youth Pastor will be evaluated on an ongoing basis by the Operations Board.

Classical Listening Sessions

When the 2013 CRC Synod appointed the committee to provide pastoral guidance on same-sex marriage, it encouraged the committee to follow a “shepherding model” in preparing its recommendations. These listening sessions are one way in which the committee is implementing a shepherding model in its work.

What is a shepherding model? Rather than have the committee immerse itself exclusively in academic reports or biblical and theological research before offering its advice to the church, a shepherding model encourages the committee to engage the church, its leaders, and its members in conversation as it explores the issues that comprise its study. This better ensures that the committee’s work is connected to what is happening in actual ministry and it brings the wider church into the conversation earlier in the process.

What will happen at the listening session? Well, listening. Representatives of the synodical committee will make a brief presentation providing background on the legal and cultural aspects of same-sex marriage in Canada and the United States. They will then introduce a set of three questions for discussion, first in small groups and then with the entire assembly of delegates. The entire process will take approximately 90 minutes

Who will be listening to whom? The synodical committee representatives will be listening to the conversation among classical delegates. The classical delegates will be listening to each other. And in it all, we’ll be listening to where the Spirit may be opening avenues for ministry and leading the church in challenging times.

These listening sessions are intended primarily for delegates to classis from the various church of classis. Visitors to classis on the day of classis are welcome to participate (i.e., this isn’t an executive session sort of things). We would prefer, however, not to give general invitations to church members interested in the topic to participate. This is to keep the discussion group size in the 25- 50 person range, which is optimal for this sort of session.

March 3, 2015
Corporation of Classis BCNW - CRCNA
2015 Annual General Meeting of the Members

- 1] Call the 2015 AGM to order
- 2] Motion to approve the Minutes of the 2014 AGM (copy of minutes below)
- 3] Treasurer's Report
 - a) Motion to accept the financial statements for 2014
 - b) Motion to appoint auditors for 2015:
 - McBride, Lauwers & Bosmas, Certified General Accountants
- 4] Election of Board Officers and Directors
 - J.P. (Andy) de Ruyter - Stated Clerk / CMC Lead
 - David Pel - Classis Treasurer
 - Jo Schouten- CMC Secretary / Alt. Stated Clerk
- 5] Adjournment

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF CLASSIS BC NORTH-WEST OF THE CRCNA,
(the "Corporation") held on March 4th, 2014

With the consent of the meeting, J.P. (Andy) de Ruyter acted as President of the meeting and David Pel acted as Secretary of the meeting.

CONSTITUTION OF MEETING

The President stated that all of the members of the Corporation was personally present and that notice of the meeting had been sent to all of the members of the Corporation in accordance with the by-laws of the Corporation, proof of such notice and attendance of members at the meeting was taken and maintained by the Secretary and shall be available upon request. The President therefore declared the meeting to be regularly constituted for the transaction of business.

ANNUAL REPORT

The President presented to the meeting the annual report of the Corporation containing the financial statement and the report of the auditor thereon and requested the Secretary to read to the meeting the auditor's report appended to the balance sheet. After the reading of the auditor's report and On motion duly made, seconded and carried unanimously,

IT WAS RESOLVED that the reading of the annual report for the fiscal year ended December 31,2013, be dispensed with.

The President then made a few remarks on the annual report and on motion duly made, seconded and carried unanimously,

IT WAS RESOLVED that the financial statements of the Corporation for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, with comparative statement for the preceding financial year made up of a statement of income and retained earnings, balance sheet and a statement of changes in financial position for each period, be and the same are hereby approved and adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

WHEREAS it is required under the provisions of the *Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act* (the "Act") that the members shall at each annual meeting appoint one or more auditors to hold office until the next annual meeting

and, if an appointment is not so made, the auditor in office shall continue in office until a successor is appointed and that the auditor shall make such examination as will enable the auditor to report to the members as required under the Act;

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried unanimously,
IT WAS RESOLVED that McBride Lauwers & Bosmas and they are hereby appointed Auditor of the Corporation for the ensuing year. The unanimous written consent of all of the members of the Corporation (including those not otherwise entitled to vote at the annual meeting of the Corporation) exempting the Corporation for the ensuing fiscal year from the requirements of the Act regarding the appointments and duties of an Auditor was directed to be annexed as a schedule to these minutes.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

The President called for nominations for election as directors of the Corporation and the following persons were nominated:

J.P. (Andy) de Ruyter

David Pel

Johannes Schouten

There being no further nominations, the President declared nominations closed.

On motion duly made, seconded and carried unanimously,

It was resolved that the following persons be elected directors of the Corporation for a term expiring at the close of the next annual meeting, or until their successors are elected or appointed.

J.P. (Andy) de Ruyter

David Pel

Johannes Schouten

CONFIRMATION OF ACTS

It was resolved that all acts, contracts, by-laws, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, made, done and taken by the directors and officers of the Corporation since the last meeting of members referred to in the minutes of the meetings of the board of directors of the Corporation or in the annual reports of the Corporation be and the same are hereby approved, ratified and confirmed.

TERMINATION

There being no further business before the meeting, the meeting then terminated.

J.P. (Andy) de Ruyter – President

David Pel - Secretary

LDN Standing Committee Spring 2015 Report To Classis BCSE and BCNW

In the spring of 2014 Victoria CRC sent a motion to classis,

”to expand Pastor Vanderleek’s job description as LDN facilitator to include a mandate to provide annual seminars to councils throughout the province. With more than 25 churches in BCNW and BCSE it is our suggestion that a ¾ time or possibly even full time position is warranted.”

After some discussion and the realization that more information was needed, the motion was withdrawn. A second motion was brought to the floor,

“that classis recognizes the important value of elder and deacon training and the important role that Pastor Wilma Vanderleek plays, and instructs CMC to work with LDN and Victoria CRC to come with a concrete proposal at the Fall 2014 Classis meeting.”

Since that time the LDN Standing Committee has been at work to come up with a concrete proposal for both classis’. The deadline of Fall 2014 Classis was not attainable, but the committee did meet with the chairs of CMC in September 2014 and agreed with their recommendation to wait until the Spring 2015 classis to make the proposal.

The work that the Standing Committee has been involved with can be compared to a home renovation. When you consider a renovation it is important that you look at your foundation and determine whether it is solid enough to warrant a reno. If the foundation isn't solid, you may as well tear down the house and begin from scratch, but if it is solid, it may need some minor reinforcements but a reno is possible.

We have looked at our foundation, our vision and mission statements and our mandate, and we have determined that they are solid - they needed some adjustments but our foundation is firm.

We also have been looking at the structure, and realize that some things may need to change, and we need to do an addition (Let’s Talk About workshops). We also realize that we need to hear from others (pastors, council members, alumni and mentors) to ensure that the structures we put in place will serve our denomination for years to come.

The LDN Standing Committee will be making a proposal to the Spring Classis. We will be asking for increased funding, to hire an administrator and to add 5 “Let’s Talk About” workshops free of charge to the churches, per year (one in the north, one in the interior, one on the island and two in the lower mainland).

We agree with Synod 2013 that “life long leadership development is a priority for renewal in our denomination and essential for the flourishing of the church.” We believe that LDN is already strategically placed to offer such leadership development to the churches of both classis’.

While the work of planning the “reno” took much energy over this past year, the 3 year LDN program continues. Currently we have 18 participants, 5 from Classis BCNW and 13 from Classis BCSE, who meet one Saturday per month. They are in year 2 of the LDN Curriculum, which is New Testament focussed, learning new ministry skills, journaling and meeting in small groups. We are excited to see how God is using LDN to shape leaders who desire to serve him in their local churches, neighbourhoods and workplaces.

BC LDN Draft Funding Proposals for Classis BCNW & BCSE

The BCLDN standing committee will be making a proposal to the spring classis meeting, which will make leadership training in the churches more accessible. Our proposal will offer to the churches five *Let's Talk About* workshops per year that will be free for the attendees (one in northern BC, one in the interior, one on the island and two in the lower mainland). In the past, our facilitator has offered these workshops and has had to charge per person for attendance to recoup the costs incurred. At the 2014 spring session of Classis BCNW, Victoria CRC made an overture to classis asking that the facilitator be given a full time position so that the sessions could be more accessible to all leaders. This overture was supported in concept, but was returned to Victoria CRC seeking more information. The BCLDN committee has worked diligently for the past year to develop this proposal.

The BCLDN committee agrees with Synod 2013 *"life long leadership development is a priority for renewal in our denomination and essential for the flourishing of the church."* We believe that LDN is already strategically placed to offer such leadership development to the churches of both classes and in fact has been already doing so over the past few years. This proposal will ensure that all of the churches in our classis can have easy access to this training, regardless of distance or financial situation.

MOTION: *That classis approves the following revised Vision & Mission Statement and Mandate and that they be added to the BC LDN Standing Committee Mandate in the Rules of Procedure.*

Vision Statement of BCLDN

Reformed leadership training for the whole people of God

Mission Statement of BCLDN

BCLDN exists to

- discover CRC leaders who desire to be equipped for ministry
- develop biblically grounded leaders
- deploy these leaders into ministry in accordance with their gifts and calling

Mandate of BCLDN

BCLDN will carry out its vision by:

- promoting leadership training within the BC CRC churches
- providing a three year curriculum that integrates Biblical content, ministry skill competence and character development
- providing Biblically grounded leadership workshops for CRC elders, deacons and other ministry leaders on a variety of topics
- receiving input and encouragement from classis, and giving regular reports to classis.

MOTION: *That classis approves "in principle" an additional funding increase of \$ _____ in the Classes BCSE & BCNW 2016 Budget proposals for the Fall 2015 Classes meetings.*

We are asking both classes:

- to increase the facilitator's salary,
- to add a part time administrative assistant position; and
- to provide funds towards the salary of a future additional facilitator.

As well, we will be asking for

- additional funding to cover the travel expenses incurred when the facilitator travels to northern BC, the interior and the island for the *Let's Talk About* workshops.

Joanna DeVries, Chair, BCLDN Standing Committee



NEW WESTMINSTER
CHRISTIAN REFORMED
CHURCH

Re: Collaboration Opportunity or Ministry to International Students and Scholars

Dear Classis BCNW, CRHM CRWM

Since our congregation welcomed our first four visiting scholars from China in the fall of 2010 we have experienced a wonderful blessing of the Lord on a ministry to international students and scholars from a variety of different countries that continues to bear much fruit. A significant number of people in our congregation, young and older, have been blessed through this ministry by way of lunch fellowships, one-to-one discipling, Chinese New Year senior’s luncheon, MOSAIC Home, friendship partners, and numerous adult baptisms, just to name a few. With the writer of Psalm 118 we have repeatedly stated, “*the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.*” (Psalm 118:23)

Our leadership team would like to strengthen the capacity of our MOSAIC ministry and begin to develop a chaplaincy-type presence on some local campuses in the area of our church (SFU-Burnaby, SFU-Surrey, and/or Douglas College-New West). Moreover, we envision this New West CRC part-time staff position building relationships with area CRCs to encourage and collaborate with them in developing and strengthening local ministries to international students and scholars.

The position that is being proposed is: *Coordinator of MOSAIC and Campus Connections*. We are hoping this position will be the result of a collaborative effort between New West CRC, Classis BCNW and the two agencies, CRWM and CRHM. We are approaching Classis because we see this as an outreach opportunity to internationals on our local campuses and want to encourage congregations in Classis to engage in this ministry. We have approached CRHM because we believe this position creatively addresses the need for a chaplain-type presence on campuses with a specific focus to minister to the many unreached people that the Lord is bringing to our neighborhood campuses. And we have approached CRWM because we wish to collaborate with in-field missionaries to facilitate ongoing discipleship and connection with pastors and congregations for students and scholars when they return to their home countries (i.e. many of our internationals are from mainland China and we have already begun to develop contact with CRWM teacher, Wayne TenHarmsel in Beijing).

We wish to pursue this initiative in small steps and hope to create a half-time position with an annual salary of \$25,000. We have already had initial conversations with representatives of CRHM and CRWM about forming such a position and have received initial agreement in financially supporting it the way we suggest below.

We are prayerfully anticipating that this position could be financially resourced through a three-way partnership for a period of three years. Following the initial 3-year period we will reconsider the financing in discussion with all involved partners.

The proposed financing arrangement is as follows (per annum):

New West CRC -	\$12,500
Classis BCNW -	\$7,500
CRHM & CRWM	\$5,000 (\$2,500 each)
Total	\$25,000

We hereby share this proposal with you, humbly requesting your financial partnership and collaborative conversation, and look forward to any further questions or conversations you may wish to have on this exciting ministry opportunity.

In His service,
The Council of New West CRC



NEW WESTMINSTER
CHRISTIAN REFORMED
CHURCH

POSITION TITLE:

- **COORDINATOR OF
MOSAIC AN
CAMPUS**

Other (possible) Position Titles:
Urban Missionary to International Students and

Scholars
Coordinator of Cross – Cultural Student Ministries

SCOPE:

The New Westminster CRC strives to tangibly display the renewing power of God in Jesus Christ to bring healing and unity to all dimensions of human life. Having experienced the leading of the Holy Spirit to welcome, enfold, and disciple visiting international students and scholars from a variety of cultures, our congregation continues to grow and strengthen its MOSAIC ministry (**M**ulticultural fellowship that **O**pens doors for **S**erving and building friendships with **A**ppreciation of cultures and **I**ntentional growth and prayer with the body of **C**hrist) and wishes to establish a more intentional Gospel presence on neighboring post-secondary campuses.

With a view to serving as a kind of “urban missionary”, the half-time (20 hours/week) position of Coordinator of MOSAIC and Campus Connections (CMCC) will provide overall leadership to MOSAIC in a way that continues to enfold it into the broader ministry of the congregation. Also the CMCC will maintain an active presence on the campuses of local colleges and universities collaborating with ISMC (International Student Ministries of Canada), CRC Campus Ministries, and CRC World Missions, building relationships with international students, and providing a Gospel witness in a secular campus setting.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Gives evidence of a deep love for Christ and His people.
- Articulates and lives into a missional, Gospel-centered, reformational understanding of the church and its ministries.
- Servant leader; Biblically faithful; contextually relevant; one who nurtures gifts, equips for service and mobilizes for ministry; missionary heart.
- Possess strong relational, communication, and leadership skills for working with volunteers and ministry leaders, and overseeing cross-cultural ministry to international students.
- College or university degree, preferably with an emphasis on or experience in cross-cultural studies / ministry.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

MOSAIC Leadership

Provides coordinating responsibilities and visionary leadership to MOSAIC.

- Coordinates, encourages and equips volunteers involved in the ministry of MOSAIC.
- In consultation with the MOSAIC Leadership Team, has lead responsibility for overseeing MOSAIC Home.
- Provide overall vision and direction for all activities related to MOSAIC.

- Work closely with Pastor of Youth and Young Adults to encourage shared ministry between Young Adults and MOSAIC.

Campus Connections

Establish and maintain a presence on local campuses with a view to engaging and encouraging international students and visiting scholars.

- Work closely with the ISMC Focus Club ministry to build connections with students on area campuses (SFU-Burnaby, SFU-Surrey, Douglas College-New West).
- If and where possible, seek to establish a campus “Chaplain” type presence, networking with other chaplains and seeking out opportunities to facilitate the intersection of faith and learning.
- Collaborate with CRHM (Christian Reformed Home Missions) – Campus Ministries to identify creative ways of bringing a chaplain-type presence to international students on local campuses.

Discipleship

Oversees, coordinates, and encourages the discipleship of those involved in MOSAIC.

- Support, participate in, and/or lead the weekly MOSAIC Bible study.
- Identifies, deploys, equips, and supports one-to-one or small-group discipling and/or mentor relationships between members of the congregation and visiting students/scholars as required.
- Offer encouragement, support, and care to internationals through visits and relationship building.

“Global” Partnerships

- Fosters partnerships with area Classis BCNW congregations to encourage a growing ministry to international students and scholars across the GVA.
- Maintains ongoing contact with returning students and scholars and establishes connection with a growing network of pastors / church leaders / vibrant congregations in various countries so that returning students can connect with Christians and be enfolded into healthy Christian communities.
- Collaborates with CRWM (Christian Reformed World Missions) to maintain connection with in-country missionaries and strengthen cross-cultural connections between the congregation and global missions.



**Christian
Reformed
Church**

January, 2015

Dear Classis,

I think it is important for you to know the work that I am doing within the Canadian church of the CRCNA. I am new to this work after serving churches in both the USA and Canada and as such I am firm in my belief that I am called to serve you as local leaders and parishioners.

I have now been serving as Canadian Ministries Director for a mere 6 months and feel blessed to serve in this capacity. My posture continues to be one of learning to understand and in this I continue to have Ben Vandezande's voice ring in my ears: "Give yourself 18 months before the learning curve begins to even out." I have had numerous conversations with agency leaders for the sole purpose of learning about their work and am working my way through all the Canadian denominational staff to know them well.

But learning does not mean that action is not demanded. My passion for the local church drives me to work together with others in pursuit of benefits for both classis and local church in ways that will bring us as agencies and denominational entities from acting less independently and more co-operatively amongst each other while in service to the local church.

Some of the examples of work in the Canadian context that demand my time:

Being present with local churches and pastors on an ongoing basis

Fostering collaboration among agencies on unique projects:

Mission Montreal (Urban Ministry Partnership in Montreal)

Faith and Justice Project (a grant project focusing on the CRC in Canada and its engagement in social justice). It is now turning a page from report to experimentation and implementation across Canada.

Local Church Connections Proposal

Canadian Youth Ministry Initiative proposal coming through the Office of Faith Formation

Hosting a Canada-wide Classis Leaders Meeting in Burlington to focus in on both planning, service and tools for Classis

Strengthening Urban Aboriginal Ministries in Regina, Edmonton and Winnipeg

Early planning for the Canadian CRC national gathering to be held in 2016 (focus on the local church)

Early conversations on 'Communication and the Canadian CRC'

Solidifying the "Direction and Control" of Canadian agencies and board

Rev. Dr. Darren Roorda, 1700 28th Street SE
Canadian Ministries Director
1-800-730-3490
cmd@crcna.org

Grand Rapids MI 49508-1407
616-241-1691
616-224-5895 fax

3475 Mainway
PO Box 5070 STN LCD I
Burlington ON L7R 3Y8
905-336-2920

905-336-8344 fax

www.crcna.org

Aligning budgeting strategy with goals

Binational work:

Partnering with the Executive Director to form and shape the denomination in ways that focus on the local church
Development of the Ministry Plan Team (which is picking up where the Strategic Planning process left off under SPACT

There is much more to say that builds on the aforementioned. For some classes where I will be present, I look forward to sharing with you at your next classis meeting. If you are not the delegate for this classis, feel free to get in touch with me at any time through email or by phone.

May God greatly bless your ministries,



Darren Roorda

Safe Church Team: Classis BCNW - Jan 2015

At time of writing, the Safe Church Team is at a crossroads in its ministry. Understanding that functioning as a safe church is an intentional and ongoing process, a presentation was made at the fall classis meeting, informing delegates that the Classis Safe Church Teams (SCT) of BCSE & BCNW will conduct a **Ministry Needs Assessment** with each individual church.

A key person in the implementation of the work of the SCT is our **Abuse Prevention and Response Coordinator (APRC)**. Faye Martin has been appointed by both BCSE & BCNW to serve as the APRC for the interim. We regard this an opportune time to explore ways in which we can be more effective as a ministry.

THE PURPOSE OF THE MINISTRY NEEDS ASSESMENT (MNA)

The purpose of the MNA is to explore ways in which the Safe Church Team can **best serve the needs** of the churches. To achieve this, it is essential that we have input from the leaders of each ministry, including church councils, to help determine how the Classis SCT can effectively educate, support and work with their ministry leaders.

The SCT will need a broad range of responses that help provide a picture of the needs of each individual church. Each church's participation in the MNA will help guide the work of the SCT & the new APRC in the coming years as they support the important work the churches are doing.

METHOD

SCT representatives will be delegated to meet with **each church**, they will work through a specific set of questions, and the SCT executive will compile the responses. In this way a general picture of the SCT work as well as particular details pertaining to each congregation will emerge.

PARTICIPATION:

The intent is to bring together for 90 minute meeting:

1. Church Staff
2. Church Councils
3. **All leaders** of ministries that involve children, youth, young adults & vulnerable persons such as those with disabilities. This would include nursery team leaders, volunteers in Sunday school, Gems, Cadets, youth ministries, leaders that accompany mission trips, young adults, Friendship ministries etc...

Each individual leader will participate as we walk through the questions. The importance of participation of all the leaders involved in these ministries cannot be stressed enough. Through their responses a picture will emerge that will help indicate where the needs lie in terms of being a safe church.

“It takes a whole church to be a safe church”

BENEFITS: Why come together to focus on the church being a safe place?

1. Provides a great opportunity for further discussion of this important subject that is foundational to important work done in the church and ongoing faith formation.
2. Promotes a message of unity on the subject and working at this together.
3. Provides an opportunity for volunteers to give their input.
4. Participation and presence of council members gives a strong message of support to the ministry leaders/staff/volunteers. Church councils are responsible for all that takes place within the programs connected to their church. Their role is paramount as responders and decision makers regarding any abuse related incident.
5. As overseers of ministries, the role of church staff is integral to the ongoing process of being a safe church.
6. Provides the church with a overview of their safe church related needs and how the SCT and the Abuse Prevention and Response Coordinator can **support** the important work being done in the church's ministries.

STRUCTURE

The CRC mandate adopted by classis for the Safe Church Team is:

1. **Education:** provide educational opportunities for churches regarding issues surrounding abuse.
2. **Support:** help churches provide compassionate support for those who struggle with abuse.
3. **Advisory Panel Process:** offer a fact finding & listening panel in cases of allegations of abuse against a church leader.

The focus is on the SCT mandate through a series of specific questions clustered around the top

8 GOALS FOR SAFE CHURCHES derived from the 3 fold mandate. These **8 goals** are:

1. That every church has a council appointed representative on the Classis Safe Church Team.
2. That every church has a Safe Ministry Practices team at the local level.
3. That every church has written and implemented their own Safe Church Policy.
4. That every church regularly accesses training for their staff, leaders and volunteers.
5. That every church leader is actively committed to safe church practices within their area of ministry.
6. That every church uses a Safe Church curriculum specifically designed to train, guide, and empower children & youth with regard to their personal safety.

7. That every church has become a place in which everyone feels that she/he can raise issues of abuse without fear or shame.
8. That every church council has knowledge of, and follows approved protocols for, responding to allegations of church leader misconduct.

Goals 1-6 are derived from the **Education** mandate, goal seven from the **Support** mandate and goal eight from the **Advisory Panel** mandate

MNA DATE & TIME

The SCT requests that **each church choose a date and time** for the MNA to take place. SCT representatives will accommodate that timetable and be present to facilitate the process.

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BCNW OVERTURE: BCNW CMC has initiated dialogue with BCSE SCT executive. This follows the decision made at their fall classis meeting that passed an overture brought by the council of the Maple Ridge CRC requesting a study of the feasibility of establishing a joint BCSE/BCNW Safe Church Team Executive and report back to the Spring 2015 meeting of Classis.

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GENERAL SCT/APRC WORK:

1. John Stellingwerff & Faye Martin were present at LDN on Jan 10, to provide some training and dialogue with the participants. Safe Church training is a mandatory part of the LDN program. SCT appreciates this opportunity to interact with the participants and support the important work they are doing in their churches.
2. Church leaders regularly make contact with the SCT for input and assistance as they walk through what is sometimes unknown territory fraught with many questions. Responding to situations that arise within the churches continues to increase. These types of responses include multiple cases involving domestic violence, historical sexual abuse, and more current situations involving behaviours that cross the appropriate boundaries and affect the safety of the church.

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INTERIM APRC WORK & SHORT TERM PRIORITY GOALS

In November a letter was sent from myself to all the SCT and contact persons in BCNW on a list provided to me by John Stellingwerff. The letter was an update on the work of the SCT in the classis. Each person was informed of;

1. my appointment by both classes as the Interim APRC and the resignation of John Stellingwerff,
2. the action of the fall classis to form a committee to look at the **feasibility of forming a joint SCT executive** with the 2 classis,
3. the Ministry Needs Assessment that will be conducted with the churches.

It is my intent to make **personal contact** with all these persons and **partner with them** in the facilitation of the MNA. This will include travel to the Northern Region to work with the churches in the executing of the MNA. Henry Jonker has agreed to facilitate the Van Island Churches with the local reps and committees. I will work with the Lower Mainland churches.

A key focus will be to begin to **rebuild the Classis SCT** in each geographical area. This will include contact with church councils to encourage them to appoint a representative to serve on the classis team.

This past year, significant work has been done in BCSE to update the **Terms of Reference** for the classis SCT. This document outlines how the SCT is structured and functions. With the appropriate revisions this could also become a working document for the BCNW classis regional Safe Church Teams. This would be introduced as a matter for consideration to the respective regional teams. If adopted, a copy will also be on file with the CMC.

I will provide the **BCNW CMC with regular reports** of the work I do in this classis and progress made in facilitating the MNA. I greatly value the interaction, dialogue and encouragement I receive from this group.

FAREWELL: to John Stellingwerff

On Nov 29, the BCSE SCT, along with their spouses held a farewell dinner for John (& Doreen). Following dinner the team gathered in the living room and each member had an opportunity to thank John and share how his work had been a blessing. An appreciation gift (monetary) was given. We are grateful for the 7 years he contributed to the Safe Church Team. We truly wish the best and God’s grace to John & Doreen & family.

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PERSONAL NOTE: from Faye Martin

As this ministry begins a new year, it has felt like a natural slide into the work of the APRC position. The overlap in Nov/Dec with John went smoothly and 2015 has brought with it a fairly intensive work load. I am deeply grateful for the BCSE SCT executive team that provides wise input and consistent support to the work of this position. In spite of the length of time, having been appointed by BCSE classis to this ministry in 1996, the nature of the work still comes with challenges and team input/partnership is essential.

In spite of the sometimes complex juggling act of balancing home/family, work at Bethesda and that of the APRC position, I find my enthusiasm growing daily. I am deeply grateful for the encouragement sent my way from so many leaders and members in both classes. The hearty “Welcome Back” that has been expressed many times is both encouraging and humbling.

As I see church leaders (in both classis) taking the responsibility of being a safe church very seriously, it is a pleasure to work alongside them in the very important work their churches/leaders are doing. God has truly blessed our classis, the SCT and the work being done in and by the churches. We give thanks!

**Contact info: Faye Martin, Interim Abuse Prevention & Response Coordinator:
604-850-5137 or sfmartin@telus.net**

BCSE/BCNW CMLT Report To Classis

January 19, 2015

Team Members

Mike VanderKwaak (Chair BCSE), Dan Hoogland (Clerk BCSE), Peter Stillingwerff (SFC BCSE), Mary Lee Bouma (BCNW), Henry Jonker (BCNW), Victor Chen (SFC BCNW); Kathy Smith (SFC BCNW) .

The BCSE and BCNW joint CMLT committee continues to meet on a regular basis. Our main objective is to serve, guide and support students and pastors towards candidacy for minister of the word and sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church. The CMLT functions as an umbrella which includes the Student Fund Committee.

The main routes that people can follow towards candidacy are:

- 1) In resident MDIV Calvin Theological Seminary (CTS) student; (Art. 6)
- 2) Non-resident MDIV CTS student; (Art 6)
- 3) EPMC (MDIV non-CTS) either 10 week resident or 24 month nonresident. (Art. 6)
- 4) Ordained Pastors from another denomination who wants to be a candidate in the CRC.(Art. 8)

The CMLT also provides support to those seeking ordination via Art. 7 (individuals with exceptional giftedness) and Art. 23 (Commissioned Pastor). We work with individuals and students from a wide range of backgrounds. Some simply want more information. Others are well on their way to candidacy.

We have worked closely with Regent College for several years and host a luncheon every January for students who are pursuing or interested in ministry in the Christian Reformed Church. We are also continuing to establish a relationship with ACTS Seminary in Langley. This past fall we hosted an information luncheon on the campus of ACTS seminary.

We ask Classis to Pray:

- 1) That God would equip, develop and affirm His call on these new emerging leaders in the CRC.
- 2) That God would equip the CMLT in its role of providing support and encouragement to a wide range of individuals considering or seeking ordination in the CRC.
- 3) That God would provide the financial resources necessary (through the Classis Student Fund) to support students seeking assistance for the 2014-2015 academic year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Hoogland
CMLT Clerk

downtown friends Classis BC-NW March 2015 Update

*In order to respect people who are exploring the Jesus-Way, **please do not post this update on a website.** This is meant to be shared aloud or hung on church bulletin boards, so as to protect the details of people's lives and keep them anonymous. Thank you!*

In 2014, we asked you to pray with us for the **potluck-and-Jesus-conversation groups** which were soon to begin. For a couple of months, each Sunday a different small group of unbelievers and believers shared a meal followed by reading & discussion of a section of Luke's gospel. Unbelievers invited included *downtown friends* members' neighbours, friends from service organizations, an entrepreneurs club, and an art studio for the working poor, a housemate, a graduate school classmate, and long-time friends. Although none of those who participated has yet made a decision to follow Jesus, almost all of them are **in ongoing spiritual conversation with *downtown friends*** at our events and in more intimate settings.

*Eva, a hard-working but very poor artist who is scared of Jesus but is drawn to believers recently made this comment about 4 believers she'd interacted with during our dinners or parties. **"You all have light around you; I can see that. I'm drawn to that** but I'm just not ready." We invite you to pray with us that those like Eva will each be "translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of the Son, to receive redemption, the forgiveness of sins (Col 1)."

Some of our friends in the Jesus-conversations were affluent and others poor, and we represented many ethnic backgrounds and nations. **The all-nation & all-class makeup of the groups modeled God's Kingdom reconciliation.** In fact, on Thanksgiving, an Aboriginal Australian with a White spouse commented on how much he liked the diversity of the dinner. Since his workplace and social settings are all multiethnic, we knew he was remarking on the socioeconomic character of the gathering..

This heterogeneity of our church and ministry, although beautiful and Christ-like in its inclusiveness, is also a hard teacher. As brothers and sisters, we work to support each other through substance addiction, physical disability, mental illness, poverty, alcoholism, and finding work after serving time in jail or prison. And we help each other to repent of pride, self-reliance, and selfishness. The rich learn from the faith of the poor, who depend on God to "give us our daily bread," and who expect and see daily miracles. The poor learn to accept God's grace by receiving employment or material help from the rich.

As *downtown friends* has grown, we've come to include people in 5 different downtown neighborhoods. This fall we committed to a 9-month journey to explore the possibility of living in intentional community in one place. This journey has included a weekly meeting for **discerning prayer**. We've also spent time together learning and practicing **healing prayer and prophesy in order to hear God speak and see God act more clearly and powerfully** among us and through us to unbelievers around us.

Sisters and brothers of Classis, with you we rejoice that God promises "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." And with Paul we "will boast all the more gladly in our weaknesses that Christ's power may rest on us." 1 Cor 12:9

Thankfully,
Mary-Lee Bouma
27 January 2015

**names changed*

Meeting of Classis BCNW / March 3 & 4, 2015

Bi-Annual Report from Breakthrough Ministries
Prepared by Pastor Turk (Andrew Turkstra)

January 22, 2015

Dear Colleagues and Delegates of Classis BCNW:

This may be my briefest report ever submitted to Classis ☺. However, it comes at one of the most crucial times of Breakthrough Ministries. Over past several months (particularly September through November 2014), I made personal visits to over 350 different businesses in Nanaimo (their owners, managers, employees or a little of both). This is the second of such visits, the first being made during the months of March through April 2014. Tallying the Nanaimo businesses plus the personal connections I have established through Reel Time Fishing Charters, the number of contacts now exceeds 400. I have notes detailing each visit.

With these initial contacts made, I am now moving forward with phase two of my ministry plan. I would like to deepen these connections on a more personal level. Some of these connections will be made through phone conversations. Most I hope to make through personal meetings. During these conversations, I will be sharing the additional services of Reel Time, namely, my ministry services as a registered chaplain in BC (this information is already printed on my business card). I hope to complete the majority of these conversations by the end of April. The remainder will be completed by the end of November 2015. Those who wish to become more connected to the services of Breakthrough Ministries will be invited to “like” the Breakthrough Face book Page, a communication tool I am currently exploring for the ministry at this point.

As a bi-vocational ministry of outreach and discipleship, one might wonder where all of this is going. Simply put, outreach and discipleship happen well within the context of a trusting relationship. I believe that I have laid healthy groundwork for trust relationships to grow (tilled the soil so to speak). It is here that I believe the Good News of our Gospel will begin to take root and grow through Life Transformation Groups or other avenues that God may open up. **As you and your council members receive this report, please keep me and this ministry in your prayers during this scary, exciting and crucial next phase.** A verbal report will be given at the March Classis as well as an update on the 2014-2015 benchmarks for Breakthrough Ministries.

Your Partner in the Kingdom,

Pastor Turk

MINISTRY TO SEAFARERS REPORT – SPRING 2015.



We give thanks to God for another year of ministry in the Port of Vancouver.

Ship visits:

During this year, Chaplain Ernst DeVries visited approximately **600** ships at the Delta Port/Roberts Bank Terminal in Delta. From these ships, more than **13000** seafarers visited the seafarer's center, a **record number!**

Christmas at Sea:

Another successful Christmas at Sea season is behind us with more than **2500 presents** being distributed to seafarers. On December 24, Ernst along with several other chaplains delivered these gifts to more than 20 ships anchored at English Bay. This is always a **highlight and this year the weather was spectacular!** The event was aired that same evening on Global News (GLOBALNEWS/BC/VIDEO/CHRISTMASATSEA). It must be noted that **without** the annual, faithful contribution of members of the Christian Reformed Churches in B.C. and Alberta there would be **no** Christmas at Sea in the Port of Vancouver! Church members in Alberta and B.C. also donated over a **1000 CD's!** Their generosity is certainly appreciated by the men at sea.

Another **highlight this year** was a visit to the Delta Port mission by 20 (Christian) employees of **Korean Airlines**. These people played instruments, sang hymns and provided hair-cuts – free of charge! All in all, it was a wonderful evening.

NAMMA: (North American Maritime Mission Association)

In April we anticipate another visit from Dr. Jason Zuidema Chairman of NAMMA and based in Montreal. In relation to this, Ernst has been in conversation with Rev. Curtis Korvers of the Port Alberni CRC discussing the possibility of visiting ships in the port there by volunteers from his church. To that end, Ernst and Jason plan to visit the Port Alberni church and port facilities during his visit. As a committee, we are excited about the possibility of expanding our mandate and covet your prayers in this matter!

Summer intern:

Once again, the Committee has decided to hire a summer intern who will be working in the downtown Port of Vancouver primarily. We have sufficient funds to cover the costs of hiring an intern for 2015. For more information regarding summer internship **click** here to view the 2014 document.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BzMPK2PLhwyamNVSEVoTU5zNzg/view?usp=sharing>

Committee membership update:

Walter Griffioen retired as committee member of Classis BCNW. We are still looking for another person to replace Walter.

Literature Fund:

We give thanks to God for answered prayers. A few years ago the Literature Fund was 'broke'! Due to some significant private donations it is well funded once again. Praise God!

Literature purchases in 2014:

1000 Philippine (Tagalog) N.T.'s

750 copies of "50 Q & A's of the Christian Faith" in the Russian/English/Chinese languages.

400 NIV Bibles.

10,000 world maps.

1000 tracts entitled, ' Why Christmas? '

In Conclusion:

We thank God for His faithfulness in the year 2014 and look forward to His provision for the New Year. To God be the Glory!

Submitted by Hank Hamstra, Chair.



www.diaconalministries.com

Dear Friends:

January 01, 2015

Diaconal Ministries Canada's (DMC) mission is *to inspire, equip and encourage deacons, churches and their partners as they join in God's transforming work in communities.*

A few highlights to share with you.

1. DMC's Website and Facebook:

Become a friend of DMC on Facebook. Click [here!](#) The sign-on is easy and stories are featured on a regular basis.

2. DMC's Ministry Shares:

DMC sent out invoices for its Ministry Shares at the end of October. For the 2014-15 budget year, ministry shares were calculated at \$7.75 per professing member. What are these used for? Click [here](#). Thanks for being partners-in-ministry!

3. Diaconal Ministry Developers (DMDs):

In addition to our 6 staff members, there are also close to 20 [DMDs](#) across Canada who are ready to serve our churches.

4. Resources:

Contact us or visit the website for resources for DMC's 3 strategy areas. These areas of ministry are 1) engaging communities, 2) equipping deacons and 3) doing justice. You can access DMC's Annual Report [here](#).

5. Task Force to Study the Offices of Elder and Deacon (2015):

The report has been released and will be discussed at the 2015 Synod. The report can be found [here](#). Contact Rachel Vroege at rvroege@crcna.org or Tammy Heidbuurt at theidbuurt@crcna.org if you wish further information.

SUMMARY:

Many thanks for your Diaconal Ministry Shares, the Operation Manna offering and church offerings that makes our work possible. We are very grateful for the opportunity to motivate and mobilize deacons and churches across Canada.

Hans Kater – National Director for DMC (hkater@crcna.org)



Surrey, BC V3R 1M9

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REPORT TO CLASSIS - BCNW

January, 2015

A. YEARLY REVIEW

This past year has been one of major changes within Cascade Christian Counselling Association.

In our report of last year, it was mentioned how our Director Elaine Binnema was leaving our organization and that Penny Armstrong was hired as the new Director starting at the beginning of January. Penny was progressing along nicely when due to health reasons she had no choice but to tender her resignation by the end of 2014.

Our contract counselor for the Abbotsford office, Mike Ayers, has been kept busy for one day a week serving clients from the Abbotsford area and he will continue to function as a contract counselor in the year 2015. In addition to Mike, we also hired another contract counselor for the Surrey office, Brent Unrau. It was noted that a need had arisen for a male counselor to be available in the Surrey office. Both Mike and Brent have been wonderful additions to our staff here at Cascade. Our other counselor, Jan Bryant continues to travel north to Smithers once per month to serve the Bulkley Valley Christian School and counseling individuals from this area of B.C. As well, throughout this past year, Penny was able to continue her work at both our Surrey and Abbotsford offices.

B. NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Due to the resignation of our Director, Penny Armstrong, the Board of Cascade has made the decision not to hire a new Director at this time, but to hire another contract counselor to work in both the Surrey and Abbotsford offices. This new approach will be reviewed every three months to see how it is serving the clients that come to Cascade.

As a result of this new approach, we have hired another contract counselor, Hollie Tomkinson, who will serve clients in both the Surrey and Abbotsford office. We look forward for Hollie to start work the middle of January.

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

We ask for the following recommendations:

- a. That Classis encourage member churches to continue to remember our ministry in their pastoral prayers on a regular basis.
- b. **That Classis encourage member churches to hold two collections annually for the work of Cascade Christian Counselling Association.**

We pray for God's blessing on your deliberations this spring.

Casey Dehaas, Chairman
Board of Directors, Cascade Christian Counselling Association.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED WORLD MISSIONS (CRWM)

Classical update

BCSE and BCNW meeting March 3 and 4, 2015

Spring 2015

Greetings,

As I write, I anticipate meeting with CRWorld Missions board in Burlington in early February. Once again I will have the opportunity to hear about the work that God is doing through the CRC and particularly CRWM close to home and across the globe. I am serving my third year of a first term as a CRWM board member representing classis BCSE and BCNW.

Too soon after retiring from years of service in Eastern Europe and returning to B.C. with his wife and team partner, **Frank Sawyer**, a long term CRWM missionary passed away this past summer into the presence of the Lord he served so faithfully. Pray for God's continuing comforting presence for Aria and their family.

Our Canadian director, **Steve Kabetu** continues his work out of the Burlington, Ontario, offices with committed staff, missionaries, volunteers and partners. Check out the January 2015 Banner for an article entitled God is Not White that includes part of his family story re- the denomination's Doctrine of Discovery taskforce.

Larry Lutgendorff, appointed last spring as Advancement Associate for CRWM Canada visited B.C. in April 2014, meeting with individual and group supporters of CRWM. Trish deJong, CRWM Missions Engagement Developer plans to be in B.C. in February to meet with Missions mobilizers, Missions committees and partners and ministry leaders.

Churches within our BC classis receive regular news from **Naji Umran and Anne Zaki** and their family serving in Egypt. Continue to pray for them and others who serve in the epicenters of unrest in the Middle East.

Originally from Langley, **Nathan and Kimberly Boersema** and their three children continue their life in Nicaragua, partnering with CRWM providing educational leadership in conjunction with the Nehemiah Centre.

Continue to pray for the **Salaam Project** as it provides training for ministry and outreach to the Muslim world. Recent extremist attacks in our country and beyond our borders cause us to cry out for counter actions in prayer vigils for peace and understanding across the globe.

At the early January writing this report, plans are shaping up to bring **Rev. Istifanus Bahago** to B.C. pending the approval of a Canadian visa for which we ask your prayers. In the fall of 2012 the CRC of Nigeria commissioned Rev. Bahago to serve as a Church Development Coordinator with the CRC in Sierra Leone replacing Rev. John Phiri who returned to Zambia. Rev. Bahago and his wife, Jemimah, relocated to Sierra Leone in January 2013 with two of their children but have taken a leave from SL because of the Ebola crisis. The Lord willing Rev. Bahago will be in Canada from February 25 to March 19, **travelling throughout B.C. from March 4 – 18**. It is the desire of BC/Sierra Leone Partnership and CRWM that Rev. Bahago visit with as many churches, groups and individual partners as possible during his time here including the B.C. classis meetings. B.C. CRC churches that are not presently partnered with CRWM missionaries are encouraged to consider this partnership.

Last but not least of all we ask for vigilance to bathe in deep prayer West African countries and particularly the **CRC in Sierra Leone** with its BC Classical Partnership. The Ebola crisis has spread disease from cities into country sides and the accompanying fear that goes far beyond the borders of the affected countries. At the time of writing there have been over 100 deaths in the Koinadugo district. The CRC community of Kabala and beyond are severely affected by limited health care, area quarantines and limited public gatherings and the closure of schools including the Kabala CRC Christian School. It has limited travel within West African countries and internationally.

Together with BC CRWM mobilizer, Ko Spyksma, I pray that our B.C. Classis gatherings may be an opportunity to share and celebrate God's way with His people in the CRC in our BC communities and beyond. God Bless.

Jenny deGroot

ddegroot@telus.net



Report to Classis BC North-West of the Christian Reformed Church: January 2015

Greetings from The King's University! We're pleased to have this opportunity to share the blessings we've enjoyed since our last report, and to look ahead to the exciting opportunities of 2015.

This fall, King's enrolled 715 students to study and be a part of our community for the 2014/15 academic year, which is up 21 students from last year and an all-time record high! It has been encouraging to see two consecutive years of positive enrolment growth. Increased investment in programs, such as the Leder School of Business and Community Engaged Research, enhanced student recruitment efforts and continually developing student care programs have helped recruit and retain more students than ever before in King's history. Thanks to all of our supporting community for helping to make this a reality.

During the summer of 2014 we received permission to change our name to The King's University – finally being able to drop “college” from the end. We were thrilled with this decision as being labelled as a “university” better reflects what King's truly is – a full-fledged university. We had our trade name legalized shortly after the announcement but are now in the midst of the process of officially having our government Act changed in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. Having this Act changed requires the submission and approval of a private bill. This process was started in fall 2014 with Dr. Richard Starke, MLA Vermillion-Lloydminster, agreeing to sponsor our bill and submitting all required paperwork.. The private bill was not able to be introduced this past fall so we are continuing to pursue this and hope to have the bill introduced this spring. Please commit to pray for this process and for Dr. Starke and the Hon. David Dorward (the MLA for King's riding) who are working hard on our behalf. Pray for political will and favour with the Hon. Don Scott, Alberta Minister of Innovation and Advanced Education and other parliamentary staff members involved.

Over 500 people descended upon The King's University to celebrate Homecoming September 26-28, 2014. The festive weekend celebrated the 35th anniversary of the university and featured everything from alumni athletic games to a music alumni concert and an enormous carnival. On the Saturday night more than 300 people filled the gym for the annual Community Banquet and Silent Auction. Many Homecoming guests ended the weekend by joining in worship at Fellowship Christian Reformed Church the next morning.

King's welcomed over 280 guests at our fall open house in October. This was an increase of over 100 from last year and we received 74 applications for admission in one day! For the majority of guests it was their first visit to King's and 15% of these attendees made the decision to apply after they arrived on campus. If you know someone who may be interested in visiting King's, mark your calendars for the spring Open House on March 14, 2015. This is a wonderful opportunity for prospective students and interested community members to see what King's has to offer.

The King's community has been engaged in an extensive strategic planning exercise over the last year to create a document that will guide the university's next steps. We are working to clearly define our vision for the next five years and are prioritizing our goals for the future. There is a lot of excitement around what the future holds for this institution and we look forward to sharing our plans with our supporting community. We expect to complete this task with Board approval of the plan in March 2015. Please pray for this process and that God will guide the decisions that are being made.

As we enter a time of financial instability for the province of Alberta, we are budgeting very cautiously for the institution. We continue to use the resources that we have been blessed with in the most efficient and effective manner possible. As we

anticipate provincial government funding cuts to post-secondary institutions we reflect on the magnitude and significance of the generous funding that we continue to receive from our supporting community. Thank you to all of the churches in Classis BC North-West for confirming the value of the work that is being done at King’s by giving generously through Ministry Shares and other offerings. These gifts represent a significant part of our budget each year. Your commitment to our students and King’s mission to provide “*university education that inspires and equips learners to bring renewal and reconciliation to every walk of life as followers of Jesus Christ, the Servant-King*” is deeply appreciated. On behalf of the entire King’s community, we would like to express our sincere gratitude.



Melanie Humphreys, PhD
President

Report to Classis from the Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee
Spring, 2015
Submitted by Yvonne Schenk, CAMC chairperson

The Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee (CAMC) has the specific role of educating and mobilizing CRC members and congregations to live in reconciled relationships as covenant (treaty) people before our Creator. CAMC works toward three goals:

- ☐ ***Awareness and Education*** of CRC members and communities of the shared history of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in Canada, of the present lived reality of Aboriginal people in Canada, and of the need for reconciliation and renewed relationships;
- ☐ ***Engaging and Building Relationships*** with our Aboriginal neighbours to better understand each other and journey down the path of justice and right relationships; and
- ☐ ***Advocacy and Seeking Justice*** for Aboriginal peoples, who remain among the most marginalized and oppressed people groups in Canada.

Our committee is currently made up of:

- Tal James – regional member, British Columbia and Alberta*
- Jean deBeer – regional member, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Northern Ontario*
- Yvonne Schenk – member-at-large; chairperson*
- Christina deVries – regional member, Southern and Eastern Ontario, Quebec and Maritimes*
- Lori Ransom – member at-large*
- Bert Adema – Indian Metis Christian Fellowship, director*
- Harold Roscher – Edmonton Native Healing Centre, director*
- Michele Visser-Wikkerink – Indigenous Family Centre, director*
- Shannon Perez – Justice and Reconciliation Mobilizer, CRC denomination staff*
- Danielle Rowann – Justice Communications and Education Coordinator, CRC den. staff*

We are very happy and excited to announce that the small group curriculum “Living the 8th Fire” is ready for use. One of the questions the Centre for Public Dialogue and CAMC has faced following the reforming Relationships tour and the Blanket

Exercise is “What’s next?” This curriculum is one of the answers to that question. It is made up of 7 small group sessions, based on the CBC’s 8th Fire series and encourages all of us to walk the road of reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbours. You can find this curriculum at: <https://aboriginalministry.wordpress.com/workshops> .

The reforming Relationships art tour and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) are coming to an end. The final TRC will take place in Ottawa May 31-June 3, 2015. The reforming Relationships tour will be there as well, for the final tour showing of Ovide Bighetty’s artwork at a downtown Ottawa location (to be determined). The Canadian Aboriginal Committee will be in Ottawa to meet together and to mark the end of both the TRC and the art tour. From Ottawa, the art work will make its way back to Regina, to the Indian Metis Christian Fellowship, where the art tour began. We are so thankful to God for this art tour and for the conversations, relationships and the opening of hearts and minds toward each other that continue from this experience.

CAMC will continue to connect with the contacts that developed through the reforming Relationships tour. We hope these contacts will become champions for Aboriginal Ministry. These champions would keep their congregations aware of the Justice and Reconciliation work being done in the denomination and would be a way for congregations to connect directly with CAMC if they would like further resources and/or would like to find new ways to do justice.

This is our vision: to continue to find ways to connect with churches and communities and through these connections to develop ways to actively live out reconciliation with our First Nations brothers and sisters. We encourage you to visit our toolkit webpage: <https://aboriginalministry.wordpress.com> and our Facebook page. We welcome your feedback.

Thank you and may God bless you in your ministries where you have been planted.

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEES OF CLASSIS BCNW
WEB SITE: classisbcnw.ca

STATED CLERK (S/C)

Mr. Andy de Ruyter 2016 (2) classisbcnw@shaw.ca
Alternate - Rev. Jo Schouten 2015(1)

**CMC - CLASSICAL MINISTRIES (INTERIM) COMMITTEE
& NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Andy de Ruyter – S/C - lead 2016(2) classisbcnw@shaw.ca
Rev. Jo Schouten - alt. S/C - Secretary 2015(1) pastorjo@shaw.ca
Mr. Victor Chen – CMLT/SFC 2017(2)
Mr. David Pel – Classis Treasurer 2017(6)
Rev. Henry Numan 2016(1)
Rev. David Salverda 2016(1)
– SCT Coordinator EX OFFICIO

CLASSICAL TREASURER

Mr. David Pel 2017(8) david@dpelcga.com
Mrs. Henrietta Hamming – alt. 2016(5)

CLASSIS AUDITOR

Mr. Fred Bosma 2015(7)

SCT - SAFE CHURCH TEAM COORDINATOR

Ms. Faye Martin (interim) sfmartin@telus.net

SCT – SAFE CHURCH TEAM CLASSIS REPRESENTATIVE

Rev. Chelsey Harmon 2016(1)

CLASSICAL LICENSURE

Dr. Neil Lettinga (250-964-7734) 9/15

REGIONAL PASTORS

Rev. Joel Ringma Northern Churches
Rev. Walt Vanderwerf Island Churches
Rev. Andrew Beunk Lower-Mainland Churches

LDN - LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Mike Moyer (bcnw) Chair
Ms. Joanna deVries (bcse) vice-chair
Ms. Melissa Van Dyk (bcnw)
Rev. Andrew Aukema (bcnw)
Mrs. Wilma van der Leek Fraser Valley LDN Facilitator

CDT - CHURCH DEVELOPMENT TEAM – no current members assigned

Please contact stated clerk for any info needed

CMLT/SFC - CLASSIS MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

/ STUDENT FUND COMMITTEE (BI-CLASSIS COMMITTEE WITH CLASSIS BCSE)

BCNW Members

Mr. Victor Chen - Chair 2017(2)
Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma (CMLT) 2017(1)
Rev. Henry Jonker (CMLT) 2017(1)

Classis BCNW Agenda
March 3rd & 4th, 2015

Rev. David Cheung (SFC) 2018 (1)
Mrs. Kathy Smith (SFC) 2018(1)

MINISTRY TO SEAFARERS

Chaplain Ernst deVries ernstd@flyingangel.ca
Mr. Hank Hamstra – Chair BCSE ~~2013(2)~~
Mr. David Pel – Treasurer BCNW 2017(9)
Mr. Rens Slot 2016(1)
Mrs. Roelien Van Geemen – Secr. BCSE ~~2013(2)~~
Mr. Walter Griffioen – BCSE ~~2014(2)~~
Mr. Jeremy Vaandrager – BCSE ~~2013(2)~~
Mr. Ed Van der Meer– BCSE 2015(1)

CRCM – ASSOCIATION FOR CHRISTIAN REFORMED CAMPUS MINISTRY IN B.C.

Rev. Dr. Alan VanderWoerd – Chaplain alan@alabanza.ca
Rev. Martin Contant – RDHM EX OFFICIO
Ms. Teresa Reitsma – Chair ~~2014(2)~~
Mr. Ted Van Helden – Treasurer ~~2014(2)~~
Mrs. Cindy VerBeek – Houston ~~2014(2)~~
Mrs. Teryl Schopfer – Telkwa ~~2013(1)~~
Mr. Clay Harmon – Terrace 2015(1)
Dr. Scott Green – UNBC Fac 2015(2)
Mr. William Van Delft – Prince George 2015(1)

DIACONAL MINISTRIES CANADIAN BOARD MEMBER FOR B.C.

Ms. Melissa Van Dyk

DIACONAL MINISTRY DEVELOPERS

Mr. Gary Veenman for BCNW
Mr. Gord Pierkik for Vancouver Island

SIERRA LEONE BC PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Mr. Dave Meyer – Chair BCNW
Rev. Joel Ringma – Secretary BCNW
Mr. Barry Lester BCNW
Mr. Asher DeGroot BCNW
Ms. Sonya Grypma BCSE
Mr. Ted DeVries BCSE
Mr. John Richey BCSE
Mr. Dennis Degroot BCSE
Rev. Martin Contant EX OFFICIO – HOME MISSIONS
Mr. Al Karsten EX OFFICIO – WORLD MISSIONS
Ms. Henrietta Hunse EX OFFICIO – WORLD RELIEF
Mr. Martin Grypma – alt.

REGIONAL DISABILITY ADVOCATES / B.C. Rep

Mrs. Caroline Short caroline.vanderloo@gmail.com

BANNER CORRESPONDENT – BCNW / BCSE

Ms. Tracy Yan tracy.yan@hotmail.ca

DENOMINATIONAL REPRESENTITIVES

SYNODICAL DEPUTY

Rev. David Cheung 2015(1)
Rev. Henry Jonker - alternate 2016(1)

BOT - BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CRCNA

Rev. Trevor Vanderveen 2015(2)

REGIONAL BOARD REPRESENTITIVES

CCBOT - CALVIN COLLEGE: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mrs. Margaret Verboon 2017(2)

CTS - CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Rev. Andrew Van der Leek 2016 (2)

BGMI - BACK TO GOD MINISTRIES INT'L

Mr. John Vegt 2017(2)

HOME MISSIONS

Rev. Harvey Roosma 2015(2)

WORLD MISSIONS

Mrs. Jenny Siebring-deGroot 2015(1)

WORLD RENEW (Formally CRWRC)

Mr. George Horlings 2015(2)

CRCPD - CHRISTIAN REFORMED CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIALOGUE

Dena Nicolai 2017 (1)

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE LIAISON

Mrs. Anne Kwantes 2016(3)

Revised January 2015

s/c AD

Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA)
& Classis British Columbia North-West (Classis BCNW)
Acronym List

- ACRCMBC** Association for the Christian Reformed Campus Ministry in British Columbia
aka Christian Reformed Campus Ministry at UNBC
- BCSE** Classis British Columbia South-East
- BOT** Board of Trustees (usually refers to the denominational board of trustees;
however, the various agencies each have their own BOTs)
- BTGMI** Back to God Ministries International (*formerly* The Back to God Hour)
- CC** Candidacy Committee (*formerly* Synodical Ministerial Candidacy Committee)
- CDT** Church Development Team (classical)
- CMC** Classical Ministries Committee
- CMLT** Classis Ministry Leadership Team (*formerly* Classis Ministry Candidacy Committee)
- CO** Church Order (*also* CO Art. = Church Order Article)
- CPD** *see* CRCPD
- CPJ** Citizens for Public Justice
- CRCM** Christian Reformed Campus Ministry (*see also* ACRCMBC)
- CRCPD** Christian Reformed Centre for Public Dialogue (Canadian ministry);
- CRHM** Christian Reformed Home Missions
- CRWM** Christian Reformed World Missions
- CRWRC** Christian Reformed World Relief Committee
- CTS** Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids MI
- DMC** Diaconal Ministries Canada
- DV** Deo Volente, Latin for “Lord Willing”
- FOS** Form of Subscription (*may become known as* Covenant for Officebearers)
- LDN** Leadership Development Network
- M2/W2** Man-to-Man/Woman-to-Woman restorative ministry often within prisons
- MA** Ministry Associate
- MSC** Moved, Seconded, Carried (shorthand in classis minutes)
- NCD** Natural Church Development (inter-denominational ministry)
- PCR** Pastor-Church Relations (denominational)
- RMT** Regional Ministry Team
- ROP** Rules of Procedure (classical)
- S/C** Stated Clerk (classical)
- SCE** Sustaining Congregational Excellence
- SCT** Safe Church Team (*formerly* Abuse Response Team)
- SFC** Student Fund Committee (classical)
- SL** Sierra Leone (*as in* CRC in BC & SL)
- SMCC** *see* CC
- SPE** Sustaining Pastoral Excellence
- TKC** The King’s College, Edmonton AB
- UNBC** University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George BC